

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
 - 2 receiving a packet from a first network device to a second network device,
 - 3 wherein the first and second network devices are connected to form a link, the first
 - 4 network device and the second network device each having a version of a dynamic,
 - 5 intradomain, distributed, flat, single path, distance vector routing protocol, the packet
 - 6 identifying the first network device's routing protocol version;
 - 7 determining whether the first network device's routing protocol version is the
 - 8 same as the second network device's routing protocol version; and
 - 9 configuring the link such that the routing protocol versions of the first and
 - 10 second network devices are the same.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the version of the routing protocol of
 - 2 each network device is one of a triggered type or a periodic type, and the method further
 - 3 comprises detecting the first network device's routing protocol type, and determining
 - 4 whether the first network device's routing protocol type is the same as the second
 - 5 network device's routing protocol type.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising configuring the link such that the
 - 2 routing protocol types of the first and second network devices are the same .

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the routing protocol is Routing
2 Information Protocol (RIP).

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the version of RIP is one of Version 1 or
2 Version 2.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the version of the RIP of each network device
2 is one of a triggered type or a periodic type .

1 7. The method of claim 5, further comprising configuring the link such that
2 the RIP versions of the first and second network devices are both Version 2.

1 8. The method of claim 7 further comprising configuring the link such that
2 the RIP Version 2 on both of the first and second network devices is triggered.

1 9. A method comprising:
2 configuring a link including a first network device and a second network
3 device, each network device including a dynamic, intradomain, distributed, flat, single
4 path, distance vector routing protocol having a version and a type, such that the routing
5 protocol versions of the first and second network devices are the same and the types of
6 the routing protocol versions are the same.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the routing protocol is Routing
2 Information Protocol (RIP).

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the version of the RIP is one of Version
2 1 or Version 2.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the version of the RIP of each network
2 device is one of a triggered type or a periodic type .

1 13. The method of claim 11 further comprising configuring the link such that
2 the RIP on both of the first and second network devices is Version 2.

1 14. The method of claim 13 further comprising configuring the link such that
2 the RIP Version 2 on both of the first and second network devices is triggered.

1 15. An apparatus comprising a machine accessible medium containing
2 instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform
3 operations comprising:

4 receiving a packet from a first network device to a second network device,
5 wherein the first and second network devices are connected to form a link, the first
6 network device and the second network device each having a version of a dynamic,
7 intradomain, distributed, flat, single path, distance vector routing protocol, the packet
8 identifying the first network device's routing protocol version,

9 determining whether the first network device's routing protocol version is the
10 same as the second network device's routing protocol version; and

11 configuring the link such that the routing protocol versions of the first and
12 second network devices are the same.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the version of the routing protocol of
2 each network device is one of a triggered type or a periodic type, and the method further
3 comprises detecting the first network device's routing protocol type, and determining
4 whether the first network device's routing protocol type is the same as the second
5 network device's routing protocol type.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising configuring the link such
2 that the routing protocol types of the first and second network devices are the same.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the routing protocol is Routing
2 Information Protocol (RIP).

1 19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the version of RIP is one of Version 1
2 or Version 2.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein the version of the RIP of each
2 network device is one of a triggered type or a periodic type .

1 21. An apparatus comprising a machine accessible medium containing
2 instructions which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to perform
3 operations comprising:

4 configuring a link including a first network device and a second network
5 device, each network device including a dynamic, intradomain, distributed, flat, single
6 path, distance vector routing protocol having a version and a type, such that the routing

7 protocol versions of the first and second network devices are the same and the types of
8 the routing protocol versions are the same.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the routing protocol is Routing
2 Information Protocol (RIP).

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the version of the RIP is one of
2 Version 1 or Version 2.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the version of the RIP of each
2 network device is one of a triggered type or a periodic type.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising configuring the link such
2 that the RIP on both of the first and second network devices is Version 2.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 23 further comprising configuring the link such
that the RIP Version 2 on both of the first and second network devices is triggered.